

1. Based on the information provided in the websites what **Internet safety rules** would you teach upper elementary and middle school students? Consider issues of privacy, safety from predators, inappropriate content, and digital etiquette.

- ✓ *Based on available information, I would teach students about the public realm of our lives and what that means as well as the implications it has. Basically, what “public” means is that nothing is held safe but rather information is transparent, just like when we hear negative things about our politicians because they operate in the public realm. Now there are things in the public realm that appear private, but the internet, cell phones, and other things (like credit cards) require the upmost personal security and we can never be too safe with our private information, guard it like you guard your money. In terms of privacy, safety, etiquette and inappropriate content, again we are operating in the public realm and the upmost personal defense must be adhered to. Ask questions at school on how to effectively operate computers in the safest manner possible, ask for a lesson or be willing to stay after school to learn. Search the internet and teach yourself on how to operate electronics safely and keep current on what is going on with internet safety. But don’t ever talk to strangers even online, and once information is posted to social media, text or whatever it remains in the public realm. Guard yourself because you*

*never know, I may be looking for you online and who wants me to know?, so I can share your information with the class?*

2. Based on the information provided in the websites what safety procedures would you teach older students about **social networking**? Consider issues of privacy, inappropriate content, safety, and digital etiquette.

✓ *Personally, I would advise to stay away from social media.* *But if you choose not to take my advice, use it at your own risk because it is very dangerous. Even some of the best intentioned and bright people make mistakes on social media so the rules and etiquette are very obscure and just as easy as it is to offend someone face-to-face, it's even easier online! Predators you are very unaware of are monitoring those web sites and collecting data on anyone they want or can have access to, even hackers. Therefore, when you believe it is safe, the software safeguards become broken down. If you choose to use social media then utilize the upmost privacy settings at all times, do not post any inappropriate content, be safe from engaging strangers, and maintain a demeanor that will not put you in harm's way or put anyone else in harm's way by means of cyber bullying and the like.*

3. Based on the information provided in the websites what safety procedures would you teach middle and high school students about **cyber bullying**?

Include the definition of cyber bullying, how to prevent bullying, and what the victim should do.

➤ **Cyberbullying**<sup>1</sup>: “the ELECTRONIC<sup>2</sup> posting of mean-spirited messages about a person (as a student) often done anonymously.”

✓ *I maintain that all students maintain proper communication with adults especially their parents about after school activities and at school teachers need to be aware of inappropriate behavior, even online if it involves ANY student. But if any type of bullying happens at school like cyberbullying, you need to let adults know about it because ALL threats need to be taken seriously! You prevent cyberbullying by communicating only with trusted friends and people you know! If someone you do not know (or someone you know whom you are not friends) tries to contact you avoid them by deleting them from your online friendship or whatever means the program has available to allow you the distance you need (or simple enough, walk away from it, delete your material then move to another site or return with a new*

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<sup>1</sup> Definition of Cyberbullying from <http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/cyberbullying>

<sup>2</sup> The term electronic refers to internet use, cell phone and other means of communication like hand-held radios or even home phone lines.

*strategy!). Many sites allow you to flag unwanted communication and if you ever receive a death threat of any kind, take it seriously and report it to authorities! Be vigilant online; protect yourself and your family by participating safely!*

4. Based on the information provided in the websites what safety procedures would you teach older students about **sexting**? Consider the definition of sexting, possible consequences for the person who sends sexual messages, and how to report sexually inappropriate content.

➤ **Sexting**<sup>3</sup>: “the practice of sending sexual images or messages to someone’s mobile phone”

- ✓ *Simply put, do not send any unwanted photos because communications can be easily intercepted through servers or satellites! Because servers and satellites facilitate most communication especially online or cell phone use, people have access to information that you may not realize just like switchboard operators once had but digital data has memory that is not easily erasable. Do not participate in any kind of information sharing or gathering that you know is either against the law or will find you trouble in some way, shape or form. I and others do not care how*

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<sup>3</sup> Definition of sexting from <http://www.macmillandictionary.com/dictionary/british/sexting>

*much privacy you think there may or may not be between two people, the simple fact is people and their attitudes change therefore a picture sent to a phone or computer can be purposely or mistakenly transferred and permanently harm another. It is best just not participate in this type of activity, also known as risky behavior. Besides spending too much time indoors, try and find better things to do with your time than participate in activities online, like go for a walk, participate in a sport or find another soothing activity outdoors that is good for your health! A healthy balance is very important.*

5. Based on the information provided in the websites what safety procedures would you teach middle and high school students about **cyber security**?

Consider the dangers from hackers, viruses, and spyware and precautions students can take to avoid these dangers.

- ✓ *Store your information in a safe place preferably in an external drive that is detachable from a computer, to eliminate the risk of somebody gathering access to your important or non-important files. The detachable external hard drive physically detaches from the computer therefore access cannot be made if the drive is not attached. Therefore, after each and every session do not leave your external drive plugged into the computer, because even if the computer is turned off, there is still the chance of getting at the data.*

*Use anti-virus software and constantly allow it to operate and scan your system. Never shut off your virus software, good anti-virus software is easy to use and knows to alert you when you have vulnerabilities. If you suspect your computer is being hacked or attacked, unplug the internet from your machine immediately!*